

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) Hydraulic controller arrangement for the pressure medium supply of a hydraulic consumer whereby a load having a high mass may be moved, comprising a pump which may be controlled in dependence on the load pressure at the consumer and whereby pressure medium may be conducted via a proportionally adjustable directional control valve to the consumer and from the latter via a drain cross-section controlled open by a drain control edge of the directional control valve to a tank passage, characterized in that in the pressure medium flow path between the consumer and the tank passage a drain backup valve is arranged, whereby it is possible to open a drain branch line leading to the tank passage substantially prior to opening of the drain cross-section.

2. (Original) Hydraulic controller arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein shut-off means for blocking the drain branch line during a predetermined stroke of a regulator of the directional control valve are provided in the drain branch line upstream or downstream from the drain backup valve.

3. (Original) The control arrangement in accordance with claim 2, wherein the shut-off means are formed by a control edge of the regulator.

4. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the drain backup valve and the drain branch line are integrated into a regulator of the directional control valve.

5. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with claim 3~~and 4~~, wherein the control edge is formed by a control groove into which a radial bore of the drain branch line merges.

6. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with ~~any one of claims 2 to 5~~claim 2, wherein the drain backup valve is a pressure limiting valve comprising a valve body that is biased against a valve seat.

7. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~claim 4, wherein the drain backup valve is arranged in a sleeve inserted into the regulator, at the outer periphery of which a load reporting passage extends which is formed in portions thereof by a longitudinal groove.

8. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~claim 4, wherein the drain backup valve is arranged in a portion of the drain branch line extending in parallel with a load reporting passage, with the portion of the drain branch line and/or the load reporting passage extending at a parallel spacing from the regulator axis.

9. (Currently Amended) The control arrangement in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the directional control valve has two work ports A, B, and to each work port one drain backup valve is associated.